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I N C O U N C I L H E L D A T T H E

W I N N E B A G O A G E N C Y , N E B R A S K A ,

J U L Y 21st , A . D . 1868 .

O M A H A :

D A I L Y H E R A L D B O O K A N D J O B P R I N T I N G E S T A B L I S H M E N T .

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LAWS AND REGULATIONS
OF THE
WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF INDIANS.

I. Any member of the Tribe who may wilfully and maliciously take the life of another, shall be arrested by the Police and tried by the Chiefs, and if found guilty shall suffer death, the mode of death to be determined by the majority of the Chiefs.

II. Any member of the Tribe who shall maliciously assault another with the intent to kill, shall, upon conviction thereof, be imprisoned for a term of not less than one, nor more than three months, and shall, in addition thereto, be subject to a fine, or shall perform such labor as may be ordered by the Chiefs as a punishment for the offence.

III. Any member of the Tribe charged with stealing property of any description from a white man, Indian, or from the United States shall be arrested by the Police and brought before the Chiefs for trial, and if convicted shall be compelled to restore the stolen property or pay the value thereof to the party injured, and shall be imprisoned and required to perform such labor and for such time as may be deemed adequate to the offence.

IV. Any person who shall wilfully and maliciously kill or destroy a horse or other property belonging to a white man, an Indian, or the United States, shall on conviction be punished in the manner provided in law number three.

V. Any member of the Tribe who shall be found drunk, or who shall bring intoxicating liquors on the Reservation, or in whose posses-

sion it may be found, or who may send off the Reservation for it, shall for the first offence be imprisoned for a term not more than thirty, nor less than ten days, and for the second offence shall, in addition to the above punishment, forfeit his next cash annuity payment.

VI. If any Chief of the Tribe or member of the Police force is found drunk, he shall forfeit his next annuity payment, and shall be immediately deposed from office.

VII. If any person shall wilfully and maliciously burn the house or other property of another, or shall by setting fire to the prairie cause the burning of another's property, he shall, upon conviction, pay for the property destroyed, and the annuity money due the offender shall be applied in the payment of the debt until the same is fully discharged.

VIII. If any member of the Tribe shall owe a debt to any one of the Tribe, and the debtor shall refuse to pay the same, he shall be brought before the Chiefs and the Agent of the Tribe, who, when satisfied that the debt is just, shall fix a time for its payment, and if the debtor fail to pay the debt in the time named, it shall be the duty of the Chiefs, upon receiving notice of the debtor's failure to pay, to instruct the Police force to at once seize such property as they can find belonging to the debtor, which said property shall be assessed by the Agent, and a sufficient quantity thereof to pay the whole of said indebtedness shall be turned over by the Chiefs to the creditor, and it shall be the duty of the Police force to protect the creditor in the possession of said property.

IX. If a stray animal shall come on the Reservation and shall be taken up by an Indian, it shall be the duty of the Indian who takes up the estray to immediately turn the same over to the Agent of the Tribe, who shall pay the Indian a fair compensation for his expenses and trouble.

X. Any Indian who may wilfully damage the property of another Indian shall be required to pay the injured party such an amount as the Chiefs may deem just and right.

XI. If any Indian or half-breed of the Tribe shall make mischief or create discontent among the Indians it shall be the duty of

the Chiefs and Police to report him to the Agent, with the view of having him removed from the Reservation.

XII. Any Chief of the Tribe who may receive a bribe or present in money, goods, or other property for signing his name to a written obligation, acknowledging the indebtedness of the Tribe, or to a petition asking that the debt be paid out of the annuity money belonging to the Tribe, shall immediately on conviction be deposed from office.

XIII. It shall be the duty of the Chiefs to see that the children of their respective bands regularly attend the school on the Reservation, and if any scholar who shall have received clothing for attending school shall remain away from school, and the parents or guardians of such child shall fail to send the scholar or clothes back within a reasonable time, he or they shall be made to pay the value of the clothes from the annuity money of the scholar, parents, or guardians.

XIV. Any Chief who shall be convicted of crime, or tainted with corruption, or who shall neglect his band, or fail in any respect to guard over their interests, shall be deposed from office.

XV. If any member of the Tribe shall die in the possession of property, one-half of such property shall be given to his widow and one-half thereof to his children, the children to receive equal shares; if he leaves no children, all of such property shall be given to his widow, and if he leaves no widow all of such property shall be given to his children in equal shares; if he has no widow or children all of such property shall go to his nearest relations in such proportions as the Chiefs may deem fair and just.

XVI. If any member of the Tribe shall steal a horse or other property from an Indian belonging to another Tribe, he shall, on conviction, be required to return the property stolen to the owner, without delay; or if he cannot return the property, he shall pay to the party injured the full value of the property stolen, and in addition thereto shall forfeit his cash annuity for the two payments next succeeding the commission of the crime, and shall be imprisoned and put to hard labor for a term not exceeding three nor less than one month.

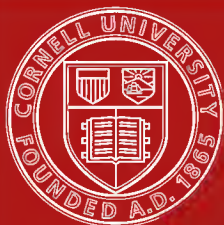
XVII. For the purpose of enforcing the laws of the Winnebago Tribe, and for the prompt punishment of crime, and the preservation of order on the Reservation, there shall be appointed by the Agent of the Tribe a Police force, which shall consist of seven Indians selected from the Tribe, one of whom shall be designated and styled the *Captain*, who shall have immediate control of the Police, and shall receive a salary of three hundred dollars per year, and one of whom shall be designated and styled Lieutenant, who shall receive a salary of two hundred dollars per year; the residue of the force shall receive a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars each per year. The salaries of the Police, and all necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties, shall be paid out of the annuity money belonging to the Tribe. The Agent shall have power to remove any one or all of the members of the Police force at his pleasure.

XVIII. The Executive and Judicial power of the Tribe shall be lodged in fourteen Chiefs, whose duty it shall be to guard with vigilance the interests of the entire Tribe, irrespective of distinct bands and individuals, to see that the laws are rigidly enforced, and that all offenders, without respect to person or rank, are brought to quick and prompt punishment, and they shall have jurisdiction of all cases arising under the laws of the Tribe. In all cases involving the innocence or guilt of persons tried before them for violation of law, nine of the Chiefs shall constitute a quorum, and shall have power to decide all questions under the law the same as if the whole number of Chiefs were present; a majority of those present and acting shall be necessary to a decision.

This is to certify that the Winnebago Tribe, in Council assembled at the Winnebago Agency, Nebraska, July 21st, 1868, adopted the foregoing laws for their local government.

MITCHELL ST. CYR,
U. S. Interpreter.

CHARLES MATHEWSON,
U. S. Indian Agent.



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